

## **LEGISLATIVE POSITION:**

Favorable
Senate Bill 461 – Retirement Tax Elimination Act of 2023
Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
Thursday, March 9, 2023

Dear Chairman Guzzone and Members of the Committee:

Founded in 1968, the Maryland Chamber of Commerce is the leading voice for business in Maryland. We are a statewide coalition of more than 6,400 members and federated partners working to develop and promote strong public policy that ensures sustained economic health and growth for Maryland businesses, employees, and families.

Senate Bill 461 would establish a subtraction modification for certain individuals receiving Social Security benefits. Starting with \$10,000 of 2023 taxable income, the subtraction modification will increase in increments of \$10,000 annually, until it reaches \$50,000 of taxable income for 2027.

Maryland has one of the highest costs of living in the nation, which discourages individuals who currently live in the state from staying after retirement. States with competitive tax codes actively recruit seniors with tax incentives because they recognize the value they bring as economic engines for job creation and revenue generation. Senate Bill 461 will not only encourage "aging in place" but will also help Maryland compete with neighboring states when it comes to attracting senior citizens looking to move. This will provide numerous benefits to Maryland families and our economy.

For these reasons, the Maryland Chamber of Commerce respectfully requests a <u>Favorable</u> <u>Report</u> on SB 461.